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NPIC/D-354/70

23 NOV 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director, Collection and Surveillance

SUBJECT : Consultations With DIA Analysts on [ ]  
[ ] Change Detection Study

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1. The 1970-1971 [ ] Imagery Interpretation Research Program provides for a study involving a target sampling approach to change detection. This approach may be one way to meet the problem of handling large workloads.

2. The study is underway and briefly, the approach is as follows: A set of ten target areas, each containing about one hundred targets of a specific type (e.g. all army installations along the Sino-Soviet border) will be selected. In addition, what are considered to be significant changes for each target will be established as well as "confidence levels" for each. "Confidence levels" refers to the calculated percentage of possibility that we would detect a significant change, under a given set of conditions. For example, a statement might be written that, using sampling techniques, we could be 90% confident that we would detect significant change in a given group of targets. Conversely, statements could be written that a 10% chance of missing a certain change within a month might occur, but over a period of a year the chance will drop to .01%. The question then arises as to whether this percentage is acceptable to the community. In the study, when the targets and criteria have been selected, a sampling procedure will be developed and the targets, using sampling techniques, will be run against historical "Blip Book" data to determine the feasibility of such an approach for NPIC operations.

3. Participation of intelligence analysts from DIA and CIA is believed essential if this is to be a valid study. The selection of target types which are susceptible to the sampling approach can readily be made with the IEG of NPIC; acceptable confidence levels can only be developed with the aid of community analysts.

4. Arrangements are being made to set up consultations between the [ ] study team and CIA analysts. I believe it would be most advantageous if DIA analysts could also participate.

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Detection Study

5. The specific point of contact in IEG, NPIC, on this project  
is [ ]  
[ ] can provide additional details, and is charged with arranging  
for the appropriate consultation, time and place.

[ ]  
Captain, USN  
Deputy Director  
National Photographic Interpretation Center

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